Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 VOE-00 /011 W

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O R 060946Z MAY 75 ZFF-4 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9134 USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, OXEC, SEDU NI

SUBJECT: STUDENT WORK INFORMATION

REF: USIA 10153 LAGOS 4094

- 1. TO ASSIST DEPARTMENT/USIA IN DETERMINING POSITION FOR THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE EMBASSY WISHES EXPAND ANSWERS CONTAINED LAGOS 4094. FOLLOWING RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO NUMBERED PARAGRAPHS OF USIA 10153:
- (1) THERE ARE NO PUBLISHED LIMITATIONS OR QUOTAS ON FOREIGN IPOT ENROLLMENT IN NIGER UNIVERSITIES.HOWEVER, AT LEAST WITH RESPECT TO AMERICAN CITIZENS, ENTRY VISAS ARE OBTAINABLE ONLY WITH GREAT DJWIIC AND FREUENTLY REQUIRE INTERCESSION AT HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT. VISA APPLICATIONS BY AMERICAN STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND RESEARCH SCHOLARS ARE SUBJECT TO POLITICAL SCRUTINY AND REQUIRE SPECIAL HIGH LEVEL SECURITY CLEARANCES. MANY APPLICATIONS ARE DENIED WITHOUT EXPLANATION. MANY MORE NEVER RECEIVE RESPONSE FROM NIGERIAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES AND ARE ALOWED TO WITHER ON THE VINE. EVEN THOUGH ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS ARE ACCEPTED BY NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES, SUBSEQUENT SUPPORT OF ENTRY VISA APPLICATIONS BY UNIVERSITIES, WITHOUT WHICH APPLINS WILL NOT BE EAINED BY IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES IS LUKEWARM AT BEST.

(2) FEES SAE.

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KEL A LIMITED NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS ARE BELIEVED TO BE AVAILABLE

TO FREIGN STUDENTS FROM NAMIBIA AND OTHER AFRICAN TERRITORIES. EMBASSY NOT PRIVY TO TERMS, NUMBERS OR DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOLARSHIPS. HOWEVER, NO SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE TO AMERICAN STUDENTS NOR ARE FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS OR EXCHANGE TEACHING POSITIONS TO U.S. CITIZENS WITH EXCEPTION OF FEW POSITIONS FUNDED BY U.S. AGENCIES AND FUNDATIONS.

- (4) A FEW AMERICAN STUDENTS NO DOUBT PICK UP SOME ODD JOBS HERE AND THERE, BUT QUESTION NOT HIGHLY RELEVANT SINCE CASUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOREIGNERS, ESPECIALLY AMERICANS, ARE ALMOST NON-EXISTANT AND IN ANY CASE WOULD NTT MATERIALLY CONTRIBUTE TO STUDENT"S BUDGET. AMERICAN SCHOLARS CANNOT HOPE TO STUDY IN NIGERIA WITHOUT U.S. SOURCES OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT.
- (5) NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT REQUIRES ALL FOREIGN STUDENTS TO APPLY FOR RESY PERMITS AT TIME VISA APPLIN FILED. RESIDENCY PERMITS ARE CONSIDERED INDIVIDUALLY BY CHIEF FEDERMIGRATION OFFICER AND INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICETANDARDS WHICH NOT ALWAYS CLEAR TO APPLICANTS OR EMBASSY. RESIDENCY PERMIT ALONE DOES NOT ENABLE HOLDER TO ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT, WHICH REQUIRES PRIOR GRANTING OF EXPATRIATE QUOTA TO PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER. ONE ANNOUNCED CRITERION FOR ISSUANCE OF EXPATRIATE QUOTA IS THAT POSI BE ONE FOR WHICH QUALIFIED NIGERIANS ARE NOT AVAILABLE. TO EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, NO AMERICAN SUDENTS IN NIGERIA ARE EPLOYED ON A REMUNERATED BASIS EITHER PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME. CERTAINLY NONE HAVE KERNMENT-SANCTIONED EMPLOYMENT.
- 2. FOR VARIETY OF REABEMBASSY WOULD NOT URGE THAT U.S. APPLY STRICT RULE OF RECIPROCITY IN DETERMINING CONDITIONS UPON WHICH FOREIGN STUDENTS DMITTED TO UNITED STATES, PERMITTED TO ACCEPT EMPLOYMEK OR OFFERED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. WITH RESPECT TO NIGERIAN STUDENTS, SUCH DECISIONS SHOULD BE MADE IN CONTEXT OF OVERALL U.S. INTERESTS AND WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY IMAGINARY RECIPRO CAL

BENEFITSNED TO AMERICAN CITIENS BY NIGERIA. SUCH BENEFITS DO NOT EXIST.

3. FOREIGN STUDENT ADVISORS SHOULD BE URGED TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY PURPOSES AND GOALS OF PRIVATE NIGERIAN STUDENTS IN U.S. WHO REQUEST ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING SCHOLARSHIPS; FELLOWSHIPS; EMPLOYMENT UNCLASSIFIED

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PERMITS; EXTENSIONS OF STAY; AND VISAS FOR WIVES, CHILDREN AND OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS. FOREIGN STUDENT ADVISORS WOULD D WELL TO ACQUAINT

THEMSELVES WITH NIGERIAPIRONMENT TO ENBALE THEM TO JUDGE WHETHER A PARTICULAR STUDENT IS IN FACT MOTIVATED SOLELY BY AMBITION TO ATTAIN NATIONAL GOAL AND TO RETURN TO USE POSITION IN NIGERIAN SOCIETYOR WHETHER STUDENT SIMPLY SEEKS TO PROLONG STAY IN U.S. FOR EDUCATIONALLY UNRELATED PURPOSES, FOREMOST AMONG WHICH ARE U.S.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WHICH GREATLY EXCEED EARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN NIGERIA.

4 DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY MIGHT WISH TO STRESS NIGERANS GREAT EDUCATIONAL NEEDS WHICH OFFER EXCELLENT ENROLLMENT PROSPECTS FOR FIRST CLASS AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL AREAS. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT U.S. EDUCATORS SHOULD BEND THEIR EFFORTS TO DEVISING AND MARKETING PROGRAMS WHICH ARE RESPONSIVE TO NEEDS OF DEVELOPING NIGERIAN ECONOMY. HEAD OF STATE IN RECENT BUDGET MESSAGE ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO EXPAND FINANCIAL OUTLAYS FOR EDUCATING NIGERIANS ABROAD AND THIS MAY BE TIME TO SELL AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS TO NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT. NIGERIA HAS INIAL MEANS TO PROVIDE OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIPS TO ITS IENS AND NIGERIANPN VERY FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN ALL FIELDS IN U.S. CROSBY

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